

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 HEW-06 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00

OMB-01 ABF-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /053 W

-----048270 251317Z /50

R 251203Z APR 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8806

UNCLAS GENEVA 06217

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG WHO

SUBJECT: WHO ASSESSMENT BUDGET FOR 1979

1. MISSION WOULD LIKE TO CALL TO WASHINGTON ATTENTION WHAT APPEARS (IN LIGHT OF FINANCIAL REPORT, JUST RELEASED) TO BE SUBSTANTIAL AVAILABLE CASUAL INCOME WHICH MIGHT BE USED TO REDUCE 1979 ASSESSMENTS.

2. JANUARY EXECUTIVE BOARD RECOMMENDED AN EFFECTIVE WORKING BUDGET FOR 1979 OF \$182,120,000 (EB61/R.21). THE INCREASE OVER THE 1979 LEVEL OF \$175,700,000 PROPOSED A YEAR AGO WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO CURRENCY FLUCTUATION. AT THE SAME TIME THE EXBD RECOMMENDED A 1979 ASSESSMENT BUDGET OF \$205,038,400 AS COMPARED TO THE 1979 ASSESSMENTS PROPOSED A YEAR AGO OF \$193,276,020. THE MAJOR CONSIDERATION IN THE FACT THAT ASSESSMENTS ARE PROPOSED TO INCREASE ALMOST \$11.8 MILLION AS COMPARED TO \$6.4 MILLION FOR THE EFFECTIVE WORKING BUDGET IS DELETION OF CASUAL INCOME AS A SOURCE OF FUNDING. THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL OF A YEAR AGO HAD INCLUDED \$2.4 MILLION OF CASUAL INCOME. THE EXBD RESOLUTION INCLUDED NO CASUAL INCOME. THE EXPLANATION GIVEN BY THE SECRETARIAT TO SUPPORT THE DELETION OF CASUAL INCOME WAS THAT THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL WAS PRIOR TO ANOTHER PROPOSAL RECOMMENDED BY THE EXBD THAT \$6.6 MILLION OF CASUAL INCOME BE USED TO FINANCE IN 1978 THE

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EFFECTS OF CURRENCY FLUCTUATION. THIS \$6.6 MILLION WOULD, OF COURSE, REDUCE THE BALANCE OF CASUAL INCOME.

3. THE EXBD WAS INFORMED THAT THE EXPECTED DECEMBER 31, 1977 BALANCE OF CASUAL INCOME WOULD BE \$8,600,000 (EB61/SR/13 PAGES 10 AND 13). THE FINANCIAL REPORT JUST RELEASED (A31/29 OF 11 APRIL 1978) SHOWS THE DECEMBER 31, 1977

BALANCE TO HAVE BEEN \$10,285,780.

4. ALTHOUGH AVAILABLE CASUAL INCOME IS ALMOST \$1.7 MILLION MORE THAN ESTIMATED, WHO IS NOT PROPOSING TO USE IT TO REDUCE ASSESSMENTS.

5. FYI SECOND MAJOR FACTOR IN SHARPER INCREASE IN ASSESSMENTS IS \$2.7 MILLION INCREASE FOR TAX EQUALIZATION FUND. END FYI.

6. SECRETARIAT IS NOT MAKING SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FOR USE OF THE EXCESS CASUAL INCOME AT COMING WHA. ADG FURTH TOLD MISOFF HE FELT IT WAS "GOOD FINANCIAL POLICY" NOT TO USE THE FUNDS TO OFFSET 1979 ASSESSMENTS BECAUSE OF THE LARGE AMOUNTS OF CASUAL INCOME ALREADY APPROPRIATED OR PROPOSED FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM. HE FEELS THE EXCESS CASUAL INCOME SHOULD BE HELD INSTEAD FOR DISPOSITION BY THE JANUARY 79 EXBD TO LOWER THE OTHERWISE LARGE ASSESSMENT INCREASES LIKELY FOR THE 1980-81 BIENNIUM. HE STATES, HOWEVER, THAT "HE WILL NOT FIGHT" A PROPOSAL OF THE ASSEMBLY, OTHER THAN TO STATE HIS CASE. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA06217
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780176-0454
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780421/aaaaarfo.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2862784
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WHO ASSESSMENT BUDGET FOR 1979
TAGS: AORG, WHO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c31249a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014